

An Evening with the Gryphon Trio

**A special fundraising event
to benefit Canada's**

Esprit Orchestra

Thursday, May 4th, 2000

**In the home of Mr. Dan Rissin
105 Woodlawn Avenue West, Toronto**

6:30 p.m. Cocktails and Repast

8:00 p.m. Concert

9:00 p.m. Dessert and Coffee

This Evening's Performance will Include Movements From:

Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)	<i>Piano Trio in A Major, Hob. XV:18</i>
Antonin Dvořák (1841-1904)	<i>Piano Trio in E minor, Op. 90 "Dumky"</i>
Kelly-Marie Murphy (1964 -)	<i>Give Me Phoenix Wings to Fly</i>
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)	<i>Piano Trio in D minor, Op. 49</i>

The Gryphon Trio

*James Parker, Piano
Roman Borys, Cello
Annalee Patipatanakoon, Violin*

“Not only extra-ordinary instrumentalists, but they have also mastered the art of ensemble playing” is how the German press *Weser Kurier* described Canada’s Gryphon Trio. Having toured extensively throughout Canada, Belgium and France, Annalee Patipatanakoon – violin, Roman Borys – cello, and James Parker – piano have quickly established the Gryphon Trio as Canada’s foremost piano trio. More recently, the Trio has extended their touring into Germany, Poland and the United States.

The Gryphon Trio’s recordings of Haydn Piano Trios and Mendelssohn/Dvořák Trios, released on the Analekta label, have received audience and critical acclaim as well as Juno nominations. Committed to performing and commissioning new works by contemporary composers, the Trio will record a CD of commissioned world in the near future. This season, the Gryphon Trio will premiere two new works as well as a large multimedia collaboration of music and visual media.

Formed in 1993, the ensemble is named after the Gryphon – a mythical half-lion/half-eagle creature that was reputed to be a guardian of treasures, and a symbol of the connection between psychic energy and cosmic force. This philosophy is embodied in the Gryphon Trio – a group that is known for its integrity in interpreting the classic piano trio literature, as well as for presenting dynamic new compositions in an audience-friendly way.

The Esprit Orchestra

Alex Pauk, Music Director & Conductor

The Esprit Orchestra, Canada's only orchestra devoted exclusively to new orchestral music, was founded in 1983 by Music Director & Conductor Alex Pauk through the generous financial assistance of The Canada Council for the Arts and Suncor Inc. Comprised of a core of forty-five dedicated musicians with the special skills needed to perform contemporary orchestral music, Esprit is devoted to developing a Canadian musical literature. To this end, it commissions and premieres new works each season, and ensures the continued public access to these works through encore performances, radio broadcasts, compact disc and film recordings, and national and international tours. Esprit's concerts are regularly recorded and broadcast on CBC Radio One and Radio Two.

Only in its 17th season, Esprit has already commissioned over 55 new works from 44 different composers. Moreover, works commissioned by NEXUS, CBC Radio, the Art Gallery of Ontario and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, among others, have been premiered by Esprit. Maestro Pauk and the Orchestra have also collaborated with leading soloists and ensembles including Jean Stilwell, Maureen Forrester, Rivka Golani, Richard Margison, Jon Kimura Parker and his brother James, André Laplante, Robert Aitken and NEXUS.

In September of 1999, Esprit completed its triumphant debut European tour. With four concerts in Amsterdam and another in Paris, the tour represented one of the largest-ever presentations of Canadian orchestral music in Europe. Over 90% of the repertoire was Canadian, and compatriots Robert Aitken and Erica Goodman were the orchestra's soloists. The previous year, Esprit toured Western Canada, presenting concerts and educational activities to enthusiastic reviews.

The orchestra has also appeared in several Rhombus Media films, among them *Ravel*; *September Songs: The Music of Kurt Weill*; *The Eternal Earth*, about Canadian composer Alexina Louie; and most recently, award-winning films by Don McKellar (*Last Night*) and Jeremy Podeswa (*The Five Senses*).

**The Esprit Orchestra would like to thank the following
for making this evening possible:**

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Yamaha Canada

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